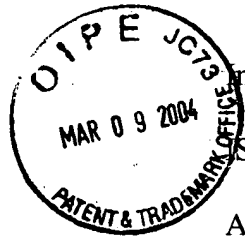


03500.017836

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

SAO EBISAWA, et al.

Application No.: 10/757,562

Filed: January 15, 2004

For: INK JET RECORDING  
DEVICE AND INK  
SUPPLYING METHOD IN  
THE DEVICE

March 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Deputy Commissioner's pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, copies of U.S. patents and/or applications are not provided; however, a copy of each foreign patent, unpublished U.S. application and/or non-patent publication so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 4,775,871  
U.S. Patent 4,926,196  
U.S. Patent 5,289,207  
U.S. Patent 5,428,380  
U.S. Patent 5,748,207  
U.S. Patent 6,540,321  
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0227496  
Japan 2000-334982

Applicants also respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/632,900, filed August 4, 2003 by Y. Mizoguchi, et al. (Atty. Docket No. 01272.020611). A copy of this co-pending application is enclosed

It is Applicants' belief that Japanese priority applications for the above U.S. application may have been published before the filing date of the subject application, making the Japanese publications themselves available as prior art under at least § 102(a).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

U.S. Patent 6,540,321 is believed to be an English language equivalent to Japan 2000-334982 which was cited in the instant specification.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,  
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to  
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael K. Deid", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-2200  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA\_MAIN 77869 v 1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.017836</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/757,562</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Isao Ebisawa, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>January 15, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>Unknown</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	4,775,871	10/4/88	Abe, et al	346	140R		
	4,926,196	5/15/90	Mizoguchi, et al	346	140R		
	5,289,207	2/22/94	Ebisawa	346	140R		
	5,428,380	6/27/95	Ebisawa	347	35		
	5,748,207	5/5/98	Inui, et al	347	43		
	6,540,321	4/1/03	Hirano, et al	347	22		
	2003/227496	12/11/03	Ebisawa	347	7		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
2000-334982	12/5/00	Japan			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1